

Who We Are

All About Bullies



Bullies are a fact of life. We've all had to deal with them. Many of us have been bullied. Some of us - probably most of us - have bullied somebody, sometime, for some reason.

It's worth trying to understand why bullying is so common and what we can and should do about it. The following can guide you in that process.

STEP 1: DO THE RESEARCH

Internet Research:

To start with, check out the following three sites.

1. This site is designed for young kids but has some interesting activities, videos and stories related to bullying.

<http://www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org>

2. This site is from the U.S. Public Broadcasting system. It offers good advice to kids who want to know more about how to deal with bullies.

<http://pbskids.org/itsmylife/friends/bullies/index.html>

3. This article on Wikipedia provides extensive information about bullying. It can be challenging to read but it is a great source of information. It defines bullying in school, the workplace, and over the Internet, among other locations.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bullying>

Making Sense of the Information:

Read the information on these sites. Do a Web search on "bullying" and check out a few other sites. Make notes and highlight the most important points. Then answer the following questions:

- What is bullying?
- What can you do when you are being bullied?

Do you think this is good advice? Why or why not?

People Research

1. Talk to the principal, a teacher or a counselor and ask them:

- What is bullying?
- What should kids do when they are being bullied?
- What happens to bullies in this school?

2. Talk with your parents or another adult about their experience with bullying. Ask them, "What is bullying? What should kids do when they are being bullied? What should the school do to protect kids against bullies?" Also ask them about their experience with bullying when they were your age. "Who were the bullies and what did the schools do about them?"

3. Choose 3 kids whom you trust and ask them the same questions.

STEP 2: COMPARE INFORMATION

Look over your notes and highlight the most important information. Then create a chart so you can compare the information. Write what you found out in the boxes.

Example:

Advice on Bullies

Questions	Internet	Principal, Counselor or Teacher	Parents or Other Adults	Kids You Trust
What is bullying?				
What should you do when you are being bullied?				
What should the school do about bullies?				

STEP 3: WRITE UP YOUR RESEARCH

Study the information you collected and write a one-page summary. Explain to other teenagers what bullying is and how you can protect yourself. Also give information on what you and others think schools should do to protect kids against bullies.

Include a review of the Web pages on bullying that you looked at. Write a short description of each Web site and include the following:

Audience: Who the page is for.

Content: What information you can find on the page.

Utility: How useful the information is for teenagers.

User friendliness: How attractive the page is and how easy it is to find information.